

Message Text

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15

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SSC-01 DRC-01 /122 W

----- 035372

R 291450Z JUL 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2824

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PINS PGOV AO

SUBJECT: ANGOLA'S JUNTA

1. JUNTA PRESIDENT ADMIRAL ROSA COUTINHO HAS SWORN IN MEMBERS OF ANGOLA' S NEW GOVERNING JUNTA. THEY ARE: ARMY BRIGADIER ALTINO AMADEU PINTO DE MAGALHAES, PREVIOUSLY MILITARY COMMANDER AND CIVIL GOVERNOR OF UIGE; AIR FORCE COLONEL ANTONIO DA SILVA CARDOSO; NAVY CAPTAIN LEONEL ALEXANDRE GOMES CARDOSO; AND ARMY MAJOR JOSE EMILIO DA SILVA. ACCORDING TO PRESS THEY EACH REPRESENT THEIR RESPECTIVE BRANCH OF SERVICE, WITH MAJOR SILVA REPRESENTING MFA AS SEPARATE INSTITUTION. AT CEREMONEY JULY 29, COUTINHO INDICATED HE IS ASSUMING ROLE OF COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF ANGOLA AS WELL AS THAT OF SUPREME CIVIL GOVERNOR.

2. COMMENT: MAGALHAES AND SILVA CARDOSO ARE WELL AND VERY FAVORABLY KNOWN TO US. MAGALHAES IS SENSITIVE, INTELLIGENT, LIBERAL MAN WHO WAS NOT KNOWN TO BE AT ALL POLITICALLY ACTIVE DURING HIS LAST JOB IN UIGE. HE WAS WIDELY TOUTED FOR GOVGEN POSITION BEFORE JOB WAS GIVEN TO SILVERIO MARQUES. HE IS POSSIBLY THE MOST POPULAR GENERAL OFFICER IN ANGOLA. HE SERVED AS PORTUGUESE MILITARY ATTACHE IN BRAZIL BEFORE GOING TO UIGE. SILVA CARDOSO WAS PAF CHIEF OF STAFF IN ANGOLA PRIOR TO ENTERING GENERAL OFFICER'S COURSE IN

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LISBON (INTERRUPTED BY APRIL 25 WHEN HE JOINED MFA). "TONY"

CARDOSO IS MARRIED TO AMCIT (LUSO-AMERICAN FROM NEW JERSEY), SEEMS WELL DISPOSED TO AMERICANS, (I CONSIDER HIM A PERSONAL FRIEND - SEE LUANDA 593.) GOMES CARDOSO RECENTLY TOOK OVER AS NO. 2 IN NAVAL COMMAND HERE. MOST PERSONABLE GENTLEMAN, BUT OTHERWISE NOT WELL KNOWN TO US. DA SILVA COMPLETELY UNKNOWN.

3. NOT CERTAIN WHAT CINC FRANCO PINHEIRO'S NEW POSITION OR TITLE WILL BE, BUT BELIEVE HE WILL STAY ON AS DE FACTO CINC. ALSO UNCLEAR IS WHETHER CIVILIAN CABINET WILL BE RETAINED OR RESTRUCTURED. MOST OF SILVERIO MARQUES' CABINET SAY THEY ASSUME THEY WILL BE DISMISSED.
BRIGGS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: JUNTA, CABINET, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LUANDA00634
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740206-0608
From: LUANDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740710/aaaaaiay.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 MAY 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <25 FEB 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANGOLA'S JUNTA
TAGS: PINT, PINS, PGOV, AO, (COUTINHO, ROSA), (CARDOSO, ANTONIO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005